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Item 7.2 of the provisional agenda

1997 Agreement (Inspections) – Future development of the Agreement

Proposal for further development of the 1997 Vienna Agreement

Submitted by the representative of the Russian Federation*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the representative of the Russian Federation and proposes the participation of the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) in the discussion and elaboration of proposals for the future development of the 1997 Agreement. It is based on informal document No. WP.29-150-18, distributed at the 150th session of the World Forum (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1083, paragraph 69).

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006–2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

1. With regard to the 1997 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections, done at Vienna on 13 November 1997 (further referred to as the 1997 Agreement), the Inland Transport Committee at its the seventy-first session (ECE/TRANS/206, para. 80) noted that the number of Contracting Parties to the 1997 Agreement (9) remained the same in 2008 and that the European Union had decided not to accede to the 1997 Agreement. The Committee also noted that in spite of this decision, the World Forum decided to continue the development of the 1997 Agreement and to develop a new draft Rule on uniform provisions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles with regard to their roadworthiness, as well as to update current Rule No. 1 on emissions. The World Forum adopted the proposal for the development of the 1997 Agreement (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2009/77) and agreed to send the proposal for draft Rule No. 2 on uniform provisions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles with regard to their roadworthiness (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2009/135) to its subsidiary Working Parties for consideration. Certain proposals mentioned in the documents are addressed to WP.1.

2. At the early stage of the preparation of the 1997 Agreement certain amendments to the 1971 European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Traffic of 1968 were made in cooperation with WP.1. Motor vehicles in international traffic, as prescribed in the amendments, shall meet the minimum inspection requirements specified in the relevant Rules annexed to the 1997 Agreement (article 39, paragraph 4 of the Convention as amended by the 1971 European Agreement). The compliance with the said requirements shall be checked during national periodical technical inspections. The driver of a motor vehicle shall, in proof of its passing a periodic technical inspection, as well as of its being in good working order, carry a valid, duly completed international technical inspection certificate. The certificate shall conform to the provisions of Appendix 2 to the 1997 Agreement.

3. Thus, the development of the 1997 Agreement, as an instrument for increasing road safety, is also in the interest of WP.1. In addition, all the Contracting Parties to the 1997 Agreement are also Contracting Parties to the 1971 European Agreement. Therefore, the participation of WP.1 in further development of the 1997 Agreement is justified and WP.29 could coordinate the work.

4. In order to organize such cooperation, it is recommended that the World Forum transmits the two above-mentioned documents (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2009/77 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2009/135) to WP.1 and requests the participation of WP.1 in the discussion and elaboration of proposals for the future development of the 1997 Agreement.